

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Specification

1. Please replace paragraph [page 25, lines 30-36 through page 26, lines 5-10] with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the therapeutic element is a polypeptide comprising a clostridial neurotoxin light chain or a portion thereof retaining the SNARE-protein sequence-specific endopeptidase activity of a clostridial neurotoxin light chain. The amino acid sequences of the light chain of botulinum neurotoxin (BoNT) subtypes A-G have been determined, as has the amino acid sequence of the light chain of the tetanus neurotoxin (TeNT). Each chain contains the Zn^{++} -binding motif **His-Glu-x-x-His** (N terminal direction at the left) characteristic of Zn^{++} -dependent endopeptidases (HELIH of SEQ ID NO: 12 in TeNT, BoNT/A /B and /E; HELNH of SEQ ID NO: 12 in BoNT/C; and HELTH of SEQ ID NO: 12 in BoNT/D).

2. Please replace paragraph [page 32, lines 33-45] with the following amended paragraph:

Of course, three distinct domains analogous to those described above for BoNT/A exist for all the BoNT subtypes as well as for TeNT neurotoxin; an alignment of the amino acid sequences of these holotoxins will reveal the sequence coordinates for these other neurotoxin species. Additionally, while sequence information is given above for BoNT/A, the amino acid sequences of all BoNT species and tetanus toxin TeNT are known and can easily be obtained from, for example, the NCBI Gen-Bank Web site: ~~www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov~~ www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov. The Clostridial neurotoxin nucleotide and amino acid sequences disclosed at this site are expressly incorporated by reference herein.